Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Homebound COVID-19 Vaccination Program Summary and Data Report

Objective: Provide COVID-19 vaccines to persons with limited mobility who are homebound and would not be able to access vaccines through ambulatory providers.

Significance: Persons who are homebound are a high priority for COVID-19 vaccination as most are older adults or have chronic health conditions that place them at increased risk of severe COVID-19-related illness and death. Additionally, they face significant barriers to accessing the COVID-19 vaccine in the community. The number of persons in Los Angeles County who are homebound and unable to access vaccination services outside the home is estimated to be between 10,000-15,000. This estimate is based on an examination of medical claims data by several public and private health care plans in the county that was done at the request of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). Given the uncertainty of this estimate, DPH's homebound vaccination program is committed to providing home vaccination services as long as there is a need, regardless of the total number of persons reached.

Approach: DPH's homebound vaccination program is part of a larger network of organizations providing vaccinations to homebound individuals in LA County. These include health plans and large healthcare systems, other medical providers, local fire departments, home health agencies, independent pharmacies, and non-profit organizations. In addition, mobile vaccine providers administer vaccinations to homebound individuals at senior housing facilities, retirement communities, and affordable housing locations, and more broadly to older adults and people with disabilities at senior centers, community centers, adult day healthcare centers, long-term care facilities, and skilled nursing facilities. To augment these efforts, DPH established a homebound vaccination program in March 2021, focused on community-dwelling homebound individuals. DPH has reached out to multiple partner agencies for referrals for homebound vaccination. These organizations include, but are not limited to, hospice agencies, home health agencies, senior centers, regional centers, local Area Agencies on Aging, Los Angeles Alliance for Community Health & Aging, the In-Home Support Services (IHSS) Program, multipurpose senior services programs, home meal delivery programs, residential care facilities, Partners in Care Foundation, and the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA). Referrals have also been solicited through community health workers, faith-based organizations, door-to-door vaccination project collaborations, and media efforts. Referrals received through these efforts are then assigned to a vetted vaccine provider to administer the vaccines.

Data Limitations: The data presented in this report are limited to vaccinations provided through the DPH homebound vaccination program. No data are available on the many vaccinations provided to homebound individuals by providers not in the DPH homebound program. In addition, some partners in the program that provide direct homebound vaccination services are delayed in reporting their data or may report incomplete data to DPH. More complete reporting is difficult to achieve given that reporting is voluntary and program partners have many competing demands. Unfortunately, mandated reporting to the State's immunization registry (CAIRS) does not include information on which vaccinations are provided in-home. A further complicating factor is that homebound individuals constitute a fluid population, with some entering and exiting skilled nursing facilities and other assisted care settings where other teams are providing vaccinations. Given these limitations, the vaccination data presented in this report do not reflect all vaccinations provided to homebound individuals in LA County and should be considered minimum estimates.



VACCINATIONS AMONG HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

3/15/2021-11/2/2021

CHARACTERISTICS		VACCINATED OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS		TOTAL VACCINATED	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
TOTAL	221	100.0%	6,848	100.0%	
Age Group*					
12-49 years	25	12.1%	446	14.7%	
50-59 years	18	8.8%	267	8.8%	
60-74 years	49	23.8%	819	27.1%	
75+ years	114	55.3%	1,496	49.4%	
Geographic Areas**					
Hardest Hit Communities (HPI+)	109	49.3%	2,278	47.5%	
Other Communities (non-HPI+)	112	50.7%	2,515	52.5%	

^{*} Age data missing on 3,820 (55.8%) of the total number of vaccinated individuals and 15 (6.8%) of the number vaccinated in the past two weeks



^{**} Geographic data missing on 2,055 (30%) of the total number of vaccinated individuals